





Montana Behavior Initiative's "My Voice"™ Student Survey

2011-12 School Year

The Survey

The 15-minute survey covers 63 questions that provide insight on student perceptions of their school experience. It is completed on-line and results are provided to a school based on eight conditions that affect student aspirations. The survey is an excellent tool for measuring school climate.

When

The survey window will be open October 24 – December 23, 2011

<u>Who</u>

The survey is available to all 6th through 12th Graders

Why Administer

2,000+ students a year drop out of school in Montana. Many dropouts are disengaged, lack a sense of belonging and have little or no purpose. Utilizing "My Voice" data, in discussions with student focus groups, can help educators and communities address dropout concerns. It is an important part of state Superintendent Juneau's Graduation Matters Initiative.

Where

The survey takes place on-line, in your building. It takes 15 to 20 minutes.

Cost

\$0 -- Nothing! Nada!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Montana Survey Results

What Can We Learn from 14,719 surveys?

Important Points to Remember

- The data represents student perceptions of reality.
- Data are numbers. It is dangerous to jump to conclusions about what the data means.
- The survey completion is the beginning point and not the end. What happens after the survey is collected is what brings value to the process.
- Digging deeper through discussion with randomly selected student focus groups is an essential part of the process.
- It is better to not give the survey than to give it and do nothing with the data.

Montana Students are telling us:

- **♣** 92% believe they can be successful.
- **42%** of 6th through 12th graders identify bullying as a problem in school
- Only 1 in 3 perceive that students respect one another
- ♣ Boys are significantly more negative in their perception of their school experience than are girls. 55% of the Montana dropouts were boys in 2009-10.
- Students who do not participate in any school related activities are significantly more negative in their perception of their school experience.
- Minority students are significantly more negative in their perception of their school experience than students in the ethnic majority.
- **♣** 60% perceive they have no voice in decision making at school
- Most students are confident and optimistic about their future, but lack skill in implementing strategies to reach their dreams.
- Montana students display a stronger sense of pride in their school when compared to students nationally.
- **3** out of 4 can identify a teacher as a positive role model, but only 2 out of 4 feel teachers care about them as an individual
- **\$1%** indicate they push themselves academically while 84% state they want to do their best in school. Montana's 2009-10 completion rate was 83%.